

First Unitarian of NJ
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Sunday, September 13th, 2020- 5 pm
Meeting held via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance:

Chris Baglieri- President
Mike Sutterlin- Vice President
Sarah Muller-Robbins- Secretary
Denise Soppas- Trustee
Cass Cochrane- Trustee
Rev Ann Marie Alderman- Minister

Board Members Absent:

Kim Mitchell- Trustee
Guenevere Zucker- Trustee

Check in by those present

Chalice Lighting: Chris

Reading of Board Covenant

Meeting Agenda

Motion to Approve: Chris
Seconded by: Cass
All Approved

Consent Agenda

President's Report, Minister's Report, 08-09-2020 Meeting Minutes

- Chris asked that in the future, everyone respond confirming receipt of minutes when sent, and try to communicate whether changes are needed.

Motion to Approve: Denise
Seconded by: Sarah
All Approved

Action Items from August were Reviewed

Action items from the August 9, 2020 Board Meeting were reviewed. New and old items remaining to be completed are listed in Action Items at end of minutes

Budget and Finance

Cass and Rev Ann Marie reviewed Statement of Financial Position and Budget for August 2020.

- Cass simplified "Budget vs. Actual" statement for easier review
- Balance is currently under budget, but will likely catch up this month
- Service auction (usually done by now) was postponed. A suggestion was made to consider a combination service auction/picnic in the Spring.
- Marcus's salary during summer months was covered by Goss Fund as previously discussed.
- Total revenue to date is "down" \$1,966.92 due to the normal fluctuation. Cass expects that we will make the difference.
- The debit card is currently being held by Joanne Macalouso for food pantry expenses, but this should be specifically authorized by the board.

Chris made a motion that the debit card that First U has will be designated for use by the Food Pantry Coordinator with the understanding that Board members also have access to the account as needed.

Seconded by: Cass

All approved

Old Business

Denise reported on her work with 8th Principle

- Denise contacted regional consultant Pat Infante requesting guidance and a mentor for our congregation to adopt the 8th principle.
- Denise has received interest in mentorship from other congregations
- The Central Eastern Regional UU has formed an 8th principle learning community for congregations that want to adopt the 8th principle. This committee was formed a few years ago and we have been invited to join. The next meeting will be held 9/23. We can have 2-3 members attend.
- Denise is posting announcements in weekly congregation newsletter.
- First U Working Group meeting to be held on 10/5 with monthly meetings after. The group has an email list for communication between meetings.
- Interfaith of NJ is running leadership training. Three members are attending the 6 week training
- Some members are participating in UUA Racial Equity Caucus.
- Some of members have participated or have lead the Dialogues on Race program sponsored by the Summit Interfaith Council. There is a new session starting in October. Denise is encouraging all are members who have not attending in the past to attend.
- Denise suggested and the board agreed that this information could be submitted in writing for future reports.

New Business

Congregational Meeting today prior to Board Meeting confirmed to ordain Maureen Erwin

Chris made a motion to designate one board member to be the Tech Liaison. Responsibilities are to address issues regarding Board access to technology accounts and to report to the board any security or technology access issues that arise. The responsibilities for tech liaison and board positions can be documented and passed on to each new Board.

All approved

Chris asked members of the board to research potential amendments to our by-laws to:

- address congregational process of ordinations.
- authorize a method for remote voting.

All Board members have FUSP email accounts. Each board member needs to verify their access and reset their password if necessary. FUSP email should be used when we are reaching out on behalf of the board or congregation. Otherwise, "Board at FUSP" and Ann Marie can be cc'd for archive purposes and also recognition by the recipient.

Share the Plate Requests

September: ACLU- Sylvia Walker

October: Black Lives of UU (BLUU)

More nominations needed. Chris suggested adding this to the Board Minute for the next few weeks.

Chalice Lighting

Board member responsible for October Board Meeting Chalice Lighting: Guen

Board Minute Speakers (to be on a rotation)

9/20: Mike

9/27: Guen

10/4: Cass

10/11: Sarah

10/25: Kim

11/1: Denise

11/8: Chris

Action Items from Meeting

- Chris volunteered to start off as tech liaison; Mike volunteered to assist.
- Chris will reach out to members to centralize tech-related information.

- Chris will reach out to other congregations to learn about their ordination process and will contact those who have been ordained by FUSP in the past. He will recruit Kim and Guen to assist.
- Mike and Denise will look into NJ regulations for remote voting processes for nonprofits
- Board members to ask for suggestions for Share the Plate during board minute
- Ann Marie will send information about BLUU to Mike for Share the Plate October
- Denise will request Rev Kim Johnson to send her recording about BLUU by Tuesday 9/29.

Next Board Meeting: October 11th, 2020

Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 pm

Prepared by: Sarah Muller-Robbins